

Good afternoon Chair Brenner and Members of the House Education and Career Readiness Committee. Today, we present to you Substitute House Bill 170. Over the course of the past month we have received feedback from education stakeholder groups, the Ohio Department of Education, and the Governor's Office. We will go through the list of changes made to the *As Introduced* version of the bill and happy to answer any questions the committee may have.

Substitute House Bill 170 changes:

- On Lines 84-96 we received feedback that districts who choose to adopt computer science *standards* should also be afforded the opportunity to adopt a *model curriculum* as well. In addition to this change, we also specified in Line 93 that a district may utilize *any part* of the standards or model curriculum and still given the flexibility not to be required to adopt them at all.
- As a suggestion from Representative Duffey, on Lines 401-405, for students choosing to take computer science in lieu of Algebra II, the school must communicate with those students that some colleges/universities may require Algebra II when applying to those institutions.
- As a suggestion from the Governor's Office, their education policy staff alerted to us that biology is a federally mandated course. Therefore, on Lines 420-422, computer science would not be allowed to be used in substitute for a life sciences or advanced study biology course (which, in actuality, is just biology).
- Removed reference to ORC 3319.074 that discusses "high quality teachers". Due to ESSA, states will no longer be required to have a "HQT" designation, therefore, stakeholders' feedback asked that language be removed.
- Lines 791-794 places a clarification that if a student applies more than one computer science course to satisfy curriculum requirements, the courses must be sequential and progressively more difficult, or cover different subject areas within computer science.
- After much discussion with policy staff and the administration, we decided to remove the grant program from the bill. However, we had some discussions around schools being able to develop a type of private-public partnership with organizations, such as tech companies. You will find on Lines 795-817 and 873-894 language that allows each school type the ability to establish a "Computer Science and Technology Fund".
More specifically:
 - The fund may consist of school dollars that legally may be used to support professional development and computer science programs.
 - The fund may also consist of private dollars donated to the school or any future state dollars allocated to the school for the items.
 - The school entity may use any amount in the fund to leverage or match any additional private donations that may be made to the school for those purposes.

- The dollars in the fund may also be used for professional development related to computer science, the delivery of online assessments, wireless connectivity in school buildings, network devices to improve bandwidth, and the purchase of computers, tablets, and equipment.
- Lastly, we worked collaboratively with the Ohio Department of Education to tighten the language on Lines 843-865. In summary, this provision would permit ODE to establish rules for individuals who qualify for a supplemental teaching license for teaching computer science. Please keep in mind that a school district still must require a person to hold a valid educator license in computer science, or a license endorsement in computer science, teach CS courses.